

HOUSE RESOLUTION 276

By Winningham

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Harold and Beverly Sutton and the Granville Museum on the occasion of the grand opening of the newly restored T.B. Sutton Store.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those historic businesses that provide services to the community while also preserving and honoring the past; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable business is the newly restored T.B. Sutton Store, which will hold its grand opening on April 5, 2008; under the auspices of the Granville Museum, the 128-year-old store is the centerpiece of the historic riverboat town of Granville in southern Jackson County; and

WHEREAS, the T.B. Sutton Store, which is reopening after closing nearly thirty-five years ago, will feature unique gifts, memorabilia, and merchandise; and

WHEREAS, in August of 2000, while Harold and Beverly Sutton were attending Heritage Day in Granville, they came across the dilapidated and closed store; the store piqued the interest of Mr. Sutton whose father, J. Ben Sutton, was born in nearby Castilian Springs; and

WHEREAS, although Harold Sutton wasn't aware of any known relation to the former Sutton store owners, he and Mrs. Sutton decided to buy and restore the building; and

WHEREAS, they commenced construction and restoration in January of 2001 against the objections of others who insisted the job was too complex and the store should be torn down; and

WHEREAS, not easily deterred, the Suttons' worked assiduously for six years to update the store, while preserving its historic 1850s appearance; they dug new footing, hoisted up one side of the building by thirty-seven inches, added a new roof, and installed water with a bathroom and a new septic system; in addition, they added additional wiring while leaving all of

the original wiring intact, replaced the back windows and installed front windows, painted, added central heat and air, poured a concrete floor in the basement, and restored the rock foundation; and

WHEREAS, in November of 2007, Harold and Beverly Sutton, public servants of the highest order, decided to donate the T.B. Sutton Store to the Granville Museum and its dedicated members so that the store, as well as its community's history, could be adequately honored; and

WHEREAS, the Suttons serve as valued members of the Board of Directors of the Granville Museum; and

WHEREAS, Harold and Beverly Sutton and the devoted staff and members of the Granville Museum are wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and they should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby commend and honor Harold and Beverly Sutton and the good people of the Granville Museum and surrounding Granville community upon the grand opening of the newly restored T.B. Sutton Store on April 5, 2008, as we wish them much continued success in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.